

Application No. 10/003,753
Amendment "C" dated April 12, 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed January 12, 2006

REMARKS

The Office Action, mailed January 12, 2006, considered claims 1-44 and 46-50. Claims 1-44 and 46-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1, 36, 38, 43 and 46 were otherwise found to be allowable. Claims 2-35, 37, 39-42, 44, 47-50 were also found to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph.

By this paper, claims 1, 3, 36-38, 43-44 and 46 have been amended and claim 12 has been cancelled, such that claims 1-11, 13-44 and 46-50 remain pending.

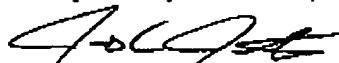
The amendments to the claims have been made to provide the appropriate antecedent basis for the recited claim elements in the preamble, by replacing the term "the" with the term "a" in claims 1, 36, 38, 43 and 46. Amendments have also been made to claims 3, 37 and 44 to more definitely recite the claim elements in such a way as to render moot the indefiniteness rejections.

In view of the aforementioned claim amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims 1-11, 13-44 and 46-50 are all in condition for immediate allowance.

In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 12 day of April, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



RICK D. NYDEGGER
Registration No. 28,651
JENS C. JENKINS
Registration No. 44,803
Attorneys for Applicant
Customer No. 47973

RDN:JCJ:ppa
PPA0000003093V001